DERWENT ABSTRACT OF DE 4219626

Abstract :

DE4219626 A

Method comprises incorporation of a therapeutic gene, by means of vectors, into body cells with subsequent expression, by the genetically modified cells, of therapeutic protein (I) and secretion of (I) into the extracellular environment.

Pref. cells are nerve cells, immune competent cells, mesenchymal and ectodermal cells, esp. peripheral nerve cells, macrophages, lymphocytes, fibroblasts and chondrocytes. Pref. (I) have antiinflammatory, analgesic, regenerative, immunostimulating, hypotensive, anti-degenerative or antiarthrotic activities.

The vector is pref. a retro-, adeno-, adeno-associated or herpes-virus, or a liposome, and may be injected directly, in vivo. Alternatively cells are removed, those cells capable of division selected and the gene introduced in vitro. The modified cells are returned to the donor. In this case the transfected cells may be indentified by co-transfection with a marker. Pref. IL-1 antagonists are IL-1 receptor antagonist and IL-1 receptor.

USE/ADVANTAGE - The method is esp. used to express cytokines (or their inhibitors); opiates; prostaglandins (sic) and their inhibitors; esp. inhibitors of interleukin-1. Esp. is is used to treat degenerative diseases of the spinal column and nerves. Gene transfer should elminate the need for large, and frequent, injections of exogenous proteins which have only short half lives in tissue. (Dwg. 0/5)